



County Offices  
Newland  
Lincoln  
LN1 1YL

15 June 2015

**Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

A meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education will be held on **Tuesday, 23 June 2015** in **Committee Room One, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL** at **2.00 pm** for the transaction of business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tony McArdle', written over a horizontal line.

Tony McArdle  
Chief Executive

**Membership of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

**Christian and Other Religious Denominations (Group A)**

Councillor C Burke, Roman Catholic Church  
Mrs C Dring, Baptist Church  
Mrs L Gaylard, Ground Level Network of Churches in Lincolnshire  
Mr A Hornsby, Methodist Church  
Mr N McFarlane BEM, Salvation Army  
Mr F Sperring, Society of Friends  
Mrs S Sreenivasan, Hindu Community  
Professor B Winston, Lincolnshire Jewish Community  
Dr T Ahmed MBA, Islamic Association of Lincoln  
1 Vacancy (United Reformed Church)

**Church of England (Group B)**

Mr D Clements, Church of England  
Mr D R Scofield, Church of England  
Mrs J Sheldrake, Church of England

**The Teachers Panel (Group C)**

Mrs C A Williamson, Secondary Schools  
Mrs E Moore, Primary Schools  
Ms S Thornton, Primary Schools

1 Vacancy (National Association of Head Teachers)

**Lincolnshire County Council (Group D)**

Councillors Mrs J Brockway, Mrs E J Sneath and C L Strange

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AGENDA  
TUESDAY, 23 JUNE 2015**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Report Reference</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Election of Chairman</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Election of Vice-Chairman</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Opening Reflections - Mrs Gaylard</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Declarations of Members' Interests</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting of the SACRE held on 2 April 2015</b>	(Pages 5 - 10)
<b>7</b>	<b>Updates from the Minutes</b>	
<b>7a</b>	<b>Annual Report</b> <i>(Wendy Harrison, Religious Education Advisor to SACRE, to provide an update)</i>	(Verbal Report)
<b>7b</b>	<b>Review of Agreed Syllabus (Minute 26)</b> <i>(Wendy Harrison, Religious Education Advisor to SACRE, will provide an update)</i>	(Verbal Report)
<b>8</b>	<b>Chairman's Correspondence (if any)</b>	(Verbal Report)
<b>9</b>	<b>Summary of OFSTED Inspections of Lincolnshire Schools with reference to the provision for Pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development</b> <i>(A report by Wendy Harrison, Religious Education Advisor to SACRE, on the outcome of inspections carried out by OFSTED)</i>	(Pages 11 - 20)
<b>10</b>	<b>Presentation from Kate Rouse, Head Teacher and James Barker, Religious Education Co-ordinator, both from the Bishop King Primary School, Lincoln</b> <i>(The presentation will highlight good practice of the teaching of Religious Education in a school)</i>	
<b>11</b>	<b>National/Local Updates</b> <i>(Wendy Harrison, Religious Education Advisor to SACRE to provide an update with regard to training for SACRE members based on local/national updates)</i>	(Verbal Report)

- 12 The Westhill/NASACRE Awards 2015/16**  
*(Wendy Harrison, Religious Education Advisor to SACRE, will explain the opportunity for SACRE to submit suitable projects to NASACRE for grant aid of up to £4,000 to help young people to develop their skills of listening to each other without prejudice. This will help young people to break down barriers and talk to people whose views maybe totally different from their own. Personal development of this kind is an essential tool in promoting a harmonious society and in enabling individuals to flourish in diversity)*
- 13 Update from Gillian Georgiou, Diocesan and Cathedral Religious Adviser**
- 13a SACRE Conference Arrangements**
- 14 SACRE Constitution Update**  
*(SACRE's draft Constitution is attached for noting and comments)*
- 15 Date and Time of the Next Meeting of SACRE - 2.00pm on Tuesday 24 November 2015**
- (Verbal Report)
- (Verbal Report)
- (Pages 21 - 30)

#### **Democratic Services Officer Contact Details**

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**Please Note:** for more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting

- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details set out above.

All papers for council meetings are available on:  
[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords)



**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
2 APRIL 2015**

**PRESENT**

Christian Denominations and Other Religions in the Area (Group A)

Mr N McFarlane BEM (Salvation Army) Chairman  
Mrs L Gaylard (Ground Level Network)  
Mr A Hornsby (Methodist Church)  
Mrs S Sreenivasan (Hindu Community)

Church of England

Mr D Scofield  
Mrs J Sheldrake

The Teachers' Panel

Mrs E Moore (Primary Schools)  
Mrs S Thornton (Primary Schools)

Officers/Advisers

Jill Chandar-Nair (Inclusion and Attendance Manager, Lincolnshire County Council); Wendy Harrison (RE Adviser); Gillian Georgiou (Diocesan RE Adviser and Lincoln Cathedral Schools Officer); Judith Gilbert (Democratic Services Officer) and Mark Plater (Bishop Grosseteste University)

**18      OPENING REFLECTIONS TO BE DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR B WINSTON**

SACRE received no Opening Reflections as Professor B Winston had given his late apologies.

**19      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Dr T Ahmed (Islamic Association of Lincoln); Councillor Mrs J Brockway; Mr C Burke (Roman Catholic); Mrs C Dring (Baptist Church); Councillor C L Strange; Mrs C A Williamson (Secondary Schools) and Professor B Winston (Lincolnshire Jewish Community).

**20      DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of Members' interests received.

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
**2 APRIL 2015**

21 MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON THE 11  
NOVEMBER 2014

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11 November 2014 were agreed as a correct record subject to the following amendment from those present on Page 1 of the Minutes:

*"Mark Plater (Bishop Grosseteste University)".*

It was noted that Bishop Grosseteste no longer was a University College and therefore the word "College" be deleted.

22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
THE 11 NOVEMBER 2014

Wendy Harrison updated SACRE on the following items:

(a) Religious Education Quality Mark

It was noted that schools could apply for this Award at Gold, Silver and Bronze level. It was observed that there was an electronic map available showing the schools which had achieved this Quality Mark already. However, this was not always kept up-to-date so was not completely accurate.

Wendy reported that she would be working as an Assessor for the Religious Education Quality Mark, and an explanation of what was involved in achieving this recognition would be discussed at a future meeting. She explained to SACRE that it was important that the REQM assessment was not made in an inspectorial way. The role of the Assessor was to help and support the school and to look at the evidence of what had been achieved. It was not a requirement for schools to send information to the Assessor in advance.

(b) Continued Professional Development

It was noted that Elizabeth Moore had been informed that her application for a Fellowship to the Farmington Institute had been accepted and SACRE offered their help and support to Elizabeth.

It was noted that centralised RE training had been delivered by Wendy Harrison throughout the year. Courses for RE subject co-ordinators and non-specialists were well attended and received. More courses would be made available during 2015/16. It was suggested that members of SACRE could attend the training sessions if they wished and Wendy Harrison would make the details available to all members.

RESOLVED

That the verbal report be noted.

23      CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE/REPORT

(a) The Chairman reported that the date for the next SACRE meeting would be held on Tuesday 23 June 2015 and NOT Thursday 25 June 2015 as previously arranged in order to avoid a clash of dates with the Lincolnshire Show.

(b) It was reported that a vacancy still remained on SACRE for a representative from the United Reform Church.

(c) Mark Plater, Bishop Grosseteste University, circulated to SACRE a draft questionnaire for completion at the end of the meeting. SACRE members were asked to feedback how easy and understandable the questionnaire was to complete and whether or not they felt that questions were too intrusive. The final version of the questionnaire would be launched at the NASACRE AGM on the 22 April 2015. It was felt that teachers of Religious Education should be asked to complete the draft questionnaire also.

(d) Mark Plater, Bishop Grosseteste University, circulated a flyer advertising Lincs RE Hub which was a meeting for all Religious Education enthusiasts in the region which would be taking place on Tuesday 21 April 2015 at 4.15 pm at Bishop Grosseteste. Attendance would be free of charge.

(e) The Chairman reported that a letter had been sent by Lord Nash to all SACRE Chairs informing them of the importance of the work of SACRE's and the place of RE in schools. The Government were currently implementing a new bursary scheme to attract new teachers to RE studies. It was noted that fifteen places were available at Bishop Grosseteste University and only four places had been filled. It was reported that the 2014 Religious Studies national results were slightly lower than 2013. SACRE would have sight of Lincolnshire Schools' examinational results prior to the next meeting when they would receive the 2013/14 Annual Report.

**RESOLVED**

That the verbal reports be noted.

24      GILLIAN GEORGIU, DIOCESAN AND CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION ADVISER

Gillian Georgiou, Diocesan and Cathedral Religious Education Adviser thanked members of SACRE who had attended the recent Diversity Day at Swineshead Church of England School near Boston.

The school had been experiencing high levels of Islamophobia and therefore needed to promote aspects of different faiths in order to bring the local community together and to raise parents' awareness of the issues. The event focussed on listening, learning, tasting and touching techniques. All parents were invited to attend the Diversity Day many of which had not come into contact with people from different religious backgrounds before that day. The event was held after school and very good feedback had been received from the parents. Parents were encouraged to

## **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### **2 APRIL 2015**

sign a school visitors' book and to make observations on the event. It was suggested that the work of the Swineshead Church of England School needed to be promoted to encourage other schools who felt that they could benefit from holding a similar event.

It was reported that the Diocese would be working with Swineshead school during Inter-faith week.

It was noted that speakers for the forthcoming Conference to be held on the 18 November 2015 were being finalised along with the budget available to hold the event. It was also reported that SACRE would need to know the cost of their budget, as during the course of the year, the RE syllabus would have to be reviewed which would have a significant cost implication.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

#### **25     SUMMARY OF OFSTED INSPECTIONS OF LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROVISION FOR PUPILS' SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

SACRE received an analysis of SMSC in Ofsted reports for Lincolnshire. It was noted that the comments included in the report were now more detailed, as the Inspectors were now required to incorporate British values into their judgements, as well as how effective schools were at preparing pupils for life in a modern Britain.

It was advised that schools were being encouraged to invite speakers into the classroom to speak to children about different faiths.

SACRE agreed to write letters of praise to the following schools:-

Friskney All Saints Church of England Primary School  
St Bartholomews Church of England Primary School, Spalding  
Digby Church of England Primary School, Lincoln  
Boston High School, Boston  
Fortuna School, Lincoln

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Gainsborough Hillcrest School offering to provide the school with any support needed. A congratulatory letter be sent also to the Gainsborough Academy where it was noted that students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development was now a strength of the school.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.



26     AGREED SYLLABUS

It was reported that the five yearly review of the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education would begin during the summer term 2015. This Syllabus would then be used by schools from 2017. It was noted that this review would be time-consuming so it was important that preparation commence during the summer months. SACRE would be kept updated with regard to the progress made.

RESOLVED

That the verbal report be noted.

27     NATIONAL LOCAL UPDATES

Due to the number of members absent from the meeting, it was proposed that the presentation to SACRE on "Religious Education, Collective Worship and British Values" be postponed until the next meeting when hopefully more members would attend.

RESOLVED

That the presentation be given to the next SACRE meeting to be held on the 23 June 2015.

28     DIOCESE OF LINCOLN - STATUTORY INSPECTION OF ANGLICAN AND METHODIST SCHOOLS (SECTION 48)

The Section 48 Inspection grades between Autumn 2014 and Spring 2015 were tabled to SACRE. It was noted that many schools had achieved a good level of improvement whilst the majority had done well to maintain a consistent level. One school whose progress had declined had unfortunately not realised that there was an updated inspection framework to work to and had worked to the previous one and this had affected the outcomes. Another school whose progress had declined had a very unsettled time with changes of Headships and there were some things which still had to be improved within the school in order to receive an "outstanding" rating.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

29     DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 23 JUNE 2015 - 2 PM

The Chairman reported the following:

(a) It was reported that the SACRE Constitution would hopefully be presented to Council on the 15 May 2015 and that the Legal Team were currently working on this.

(b) Mrs L Gaylard kindly offered to deliver the opening reflections for the next meeting.

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
**2 APRIL 2015**

(c) Representatives from Bishop King School would be attending the next SACRE meeting.

(d) SACRE members were reminded to complete the questionnaires at the end of the meeting.

**RESOLVED**

That the next SACRE meeting be held on Tuesday 23 June 2015 at 2 pm.

The meeting closed at 3.10 pm

# Agenda Item 9

<b>NAME OF COMMITTEE:</b>	<b>STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>2<sup>3rd</sup> June 2015</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Summary of OFSTED Inspections of Lincolnshire Schools with reference to provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Religious Education Adviser</b>
<b>NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Wendy Harrison</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:</b>	<b>07540 604842</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	<b><a href="mailto:wendyanneh@aol.com">wendyanneh@aol.com</a></b>
<b>IS THE REPORT EXEMPT?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>IS THE REPORT CONFIDENTIAL?</b>	<b>No</b>

**SUMMARY:** The report summarises inspectors' judgements on schools' provision for pupils' SMSC development in those schools inspected by OFSTED since the last report presented to SACRE on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015

**DISCUSSION:** The present inspection framework (Section 5) does not require inspectors to grade SMSC but asks for it to be embedded throughout the report. SMSC now includes judgements about the way schools promote British values and prepares pupils for life in modern Britain.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the report be noted and any comments made as necessary.

**APPENDICES – None**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** The following background papers, as defined in the Local Government Act 1972, were relied upon in writing this report.

<b>PAPER TYPE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACCESSIBILITY</b>
OFSTED Inspection Reports		Various	School Improvement Service County Offices

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### Analysis of SMSC in Ofsted reports for Lincolnshire – Feb 2015 – April 2015

School	NOR	Date inspected	Overall Effectiveness	SMSC
<b>PRIMARY</b>				
<b>Bythams Primary School Grantham</b>	84	28 Jan-26 Feb	Good	Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted well. Issues of right and wrong are covered in assemblies and classes, and by pupils' own efforts. The school's core values reflect and promote the values which underpin our British society. The school is rigorous in its promotion of equal opportunities and in ensuring that there is no discrimination of any kind. Through these activities, pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain. The shared contribution to each other's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is reflected in their readiness to take on responsibility on the school council and as playground leaders and 'buddies'.
<b>Digby CE School Lincoln</b>	93	4-5 Feb	Good	The rich range of subjects and opportunities the school provides makes an outstanding contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Pupils in all year groups can explain what the three core values of the school, 'Friendship, Respect and Honesty', mean to them. The range of experience offered, equips all pupils well for their future life in modern Britain.
<b>St.Paul's Community Primary and Nursery School</b>	244	4-5 Feb	Requires improvement	The school does a good job in providing experiences for pupils that broaden their outlook on life in modern Britain and their understanding of the opportunities open to them. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted appropriately

<b>Spalding</b>				throughout the school. Books and displays show the school gives pupils regular chances to find out about other faiths and cultures. Although they can remember the activities, they find it harder to explain what they stand for and the religion or culture they represent. The school is working on this.
<b>School</b>	<b>NOR</b>	<b>Date inspected</b>	<b>Overall Effectiveness</b>	<b>SMSC</b>
<b>Great Ponton CE School Grantham</b>	66	12-13 Feb	Good	The school strongly promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Consequently, pupils have a good understanding of their social responsibilities and helping others less fortunate than themselves. The curriculum recognises local, regional and global differences, including different cultures and beliefs, and it promotes an understanding of others points of view. Planning promotes fundamental British values around democracy, liberty, and respect and tolerance of faiths and beliefs. Pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is also important in this Christian school. This small school emphasises social responsibility and helping others less fortunate. Governors ensure that the curriculum promotes tolerance and respect and prepares young people positively for life in modern Britain.
<b>The Saint Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy Stamford</b>	139	26-27 Feb	Good	Pupils learn key values such as tolerance and respect for the rights and beliefs of others that prepare them well for life in modern Britain. As a result, they make good progress in their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and school staff promote children's personal development.

School	NOR	Date inspected	Overall Effectiveness	SMSC
<b>The Fourfields CE School Boston</b>	142	3-4 March	Good	Literacy and numeracy skills, and pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are all developed well. Consequently, pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their education and for their future lives in modern Britain. Pupils have a good awareness of spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues. These are successfully promoted through, for example, meaningful assemblies, exciting residential visits, studies of other cultures, and links with a school in Uganda. Through this wide range of activities, pupils learn values such as tolerance and respect, and are well prepared for their future lives as British citizens and for their time at secondary school.
<b>St Botolph's CE Primary School Sleaford</b>	394	12-13 March	Requires improvement	The promotion of British values features strongly throughout the school. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted well. Pupils are quiet and respectful during acts of collective worship. They respond with interest and maturity to the school's themes such as peace, and readily reflect on their meaning and relevance to their own lives. They regularly consider issues such as tolerance, respect, peace and friendship through termly themes. As a result they are well prepared for life in modern Britain.
<b>Waddington Redwood Primary School Lincoln</b>	282	17-18 March	Requires improvement	The school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well. The school uses the local and wider community to enrich pupils' awareness of cultures and faiths, and the recent Diversity Day has further raised awareness of this aspect of learning. As a result, pupils show understanding of fairness and tolerance of difference. This reinforces their understanding of being British and the rights and responsibilities of life in modern

				British society. Pupils work well together, study a range of faiths and consider what is right and wrong.
<b>School</b>	<b>NOR</b>	<b>Date inspected</b>	<b>Overall Effectiveness</b>	<b>SMSC</b>
<b>Cherry Willingham Primary School Lincoln</b>	310	18-19 March	Requires improvement	There are strengths in the promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Core values, such as honesty, respect and tolerance, are fostered and pupils are prepared appropriately for life in modern Britain. As yet, some subject leaders, such as those leading history, geography and religious education, are having insufficient impact on pupils' achievement. Their checking of pupils' progress in their books is infrequent. In the early years staff promote children's moral and social education by establishing routines for them to take turns, share and listen to each other. As a result they learn about different cultures through the celebration of various festivals, for example, Chinese New Year.
<b>Cliffedale Primary School Grantham</b>	317	24-25 March	Requires improvement	The new headteacher has galvanised action and ensured that the staff promote British values. Pupils can explain how they are prepared for life in modern Britain; they have developed tolerance and respect and they know how British democracy works. The school provides good opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
<b>Deeping St James Community Primary School Peterborough</b>	209	24-25 March	Requires improvement	Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding is developed effectively through well-planned activities and visits. Leaders promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively. British values are also promoted well. Pupils learn about other faiths and cultures, and have made links with an ethnically diverse school in Peterborough. This helps prepare pupils well for life in modern Britain. Governors make



				sure that the curriculum promotes tolerance and respect.
<b>School</b>	<b>NOR</b>	<b>Date inspected</b>	<b>Overall Effectiveness</b>	<b>SMSC</b>
<b>The Marston Thorold's Charity CE School Grantham</b>	85	15-16 April	Good	Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted well overall, particularly the aspects that link with the school's status as a church school. British values, such as respect and tolerance, are taught well. Pupils are beginning to understand their rights and responsibilities as British citizens and this prepares them effectively for life in modern Britain.
<b>SECONDARY</b>				
<b>Birkbeck School and Community Arts College Louth</b>	267	3-4 Feb	Inadequate	Weaknesses in the leadership of mathematics, history, geography, religious education and languages have meant that students' progress has not accurately and rigorously monitored and students have underachieved. The curriculum is sufficiently broad to promote students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness. They develop a clear awareness of British values, including respect and understanding for those who are from different faiths and cultures. Assemblies use parables, such as that of the Good Samaritan, to successfully raise students' awareness of the needs of others. In an assembly, many students spoke of how they give up their free time to help charities and disabled young people.
<b>North Kesteven School Lincoln</b>	1365	12-13 March	Good	Good provision and guidance for students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are central to the school's work. The curriculum recognises local, regional and global differences, including different cultures and beliefs, and it promotes an understanding of the points of view of others. Planning promotes fundamental British values around democracy, liberty, and respect

				and tolerance of faiths and beliefs. As a result, students are well prepared for life in modern Britain. There is good behaviour around the school and low-level disruption in class is rare. This is because of the school's promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural values, and students' sense of growing responsibility.
<b>School</b>	<b>NOR</b>	<b>Date inspected</b>	<b>Overall Effectiveness</b>	<b>SMSC</b>
<b>Sir John Gleed School Spalding</b>	1447	24-25 March	Inadequate	Senior leaders have not ensured that students in the sixth form have access to enough extra-curricular activities, or opportunities to learn about other faiths and cultures, in order to best prepare them for life in modern Britain.
<b>St Peter and St Paul, Catholic Voluntary Academy Lincoln</b>	551	24-25 March	Requires improvement	Students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good. Students' strong values are developed effectively in lessons, assemblies, tutor time, extra curricular activities, special events and themed days, and in the caring ethos of the academy. Students are well prepared for life in modern Britain. Recent whole school 'Aspire' days have included themes on human rights and communities working together. Students learn to be tolerant and respectful of others. They are concerned about those less fortunate than themselves, and raise funds for charitable causes.
<b>SPECIAL SCHOOLS</b>				
<b>The Phoenix School Grantham</b>	41	5-6 Feb	Good	Opportunities to go on educational visits and to take part in special events make an outstanding contribution to students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. The academy does a great deal to promote British values and to prepare students for life in modern British society. It has full International School status and holds the Unicef Respecting Rights award. Students explore their own and other people's beliefs and feelings,

				and learn about the importance of tolerance and respect. Students are taught about their responsibilities as a citizen in British society. They learn the differences between right and wrong, both in terms of their actions and the actions of others.
<b>The Lady Jane Franklin School Spilsby</b>	60	16-17 April 2015	Outstanding	Pupils learn tolerance of a range of faiths. Their whole school project on what it means to be British is particularly creative. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is outstanding. Through the 'fair trade' project pupils reflect spiritually on those less fortunate than themselves. Through participating in anger management sessions, pupils work out what they did wrong and what they need to do to make amends. Cultural diversity is promoted in lessons. The school focuses strongly on encouraging pupils' awareness of the British values of tolerance and liberty. Pupils showed tolerance when they visited a Mandir and valued the way Hindus worship. A creative and emerging project involves all pupils in what it means to be British and stimulates their critical thinking.

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## **LINCOLNSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) - CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **1. Legal Framework, Rights and Responsibilities**

Legal basis of Religious Education and Collective Worship in maintained schools.

The Local Authority has a duty to establish SACRE and Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) in accordance with the Education Act 1996.

Every maintained school in England must provide basic curriculum (RE, sex education and the National Curriculum). This includes provision for RE for all registered pupils at the school (including those in the sixth form), except those withdrawn by their parents (or withdrawing themselves if they are aged 18 or over) in accordance with Schedule 19 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

The key document in determining the teaching of RE is the Agreed Syllabus. Schools designated as having a religious character are free to make their own decisions in preparing their syllabus. Local Authorities must ensure that the Agreed Syllabus for their area is consistent with Section 375 of the Education Act 1996, which requires the syllabus to reflect that the religious traditions of Great Britain are in the main Christian whilst taking account of teaching and practices of other principal religions represented in Great Britain.

#### The Agreed Syllabus

The locally Agreed Syllabus is a statutory syllabus of RE prepared under Schedule 31 to the Education Act 1996 and adopted by the LA under that schedule. It must be followed in maintained schools without a designated denomination. Once adopted by the LA, the Agreed Syllabus sets out what pupils should be taught and can include the expected standards of pupils' performance at different stages. Every locally Agreed Syllabus must reflect that the religious traditions of Great Britain are in the main Christian, while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.

The law does not define what the principle religions represented in Great Britain are. Agreed Syllabus Conferences (ASC) can decide which are the principle religions represented in Great Britain, other than Christianity, to be included in their Agreed Syllabus.

Agreed Syllabus in any community school and any foundation, voluntary-aided or voluntary controlled school without a religious character cannot require RE to be provided by means of any catechism or formulary which is distinctive of a particular religious denomination.

This prohibition does not extend to the study of catechisms and formularies.

(Schools are not obliged to provide RE to pupils who are under compulsory school age (section 80(2)(a) of the Education Act 2002), although there are

many instances of good practice where RE is taught to these pupils. Separate legislative provision on RE is made for maintained special schools. Regulations covering maintained special schools require then to ensure that, as far as practicable, every pupil receives RE.)

## **2. Defined Terms/Acronyms**

RE	Religious Education
Agreed Syllabus members	The approved RE syllabus adopted by the LA Nominated and approved SACRE person eligible to vote
Other Persons	Any member of public eligible to join SACRE but does not hold voting right
Working Parties	A delegated group from within SACRE tasked with recommending solutions for SACRE work topics
Adviser	The LA's professional R.E. technical lead
Representative	The LA's professional representative from Children's Services
LA	The Local Authority known as Lincolnshire County Council.
SACRE	Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education
ASC	Agreed Syllabus Conference

## **3. Duties**

The broad role of the SACRE is to support the effective provision of RE and Collective Worship in schools, to enrich the experience of RE and Collective Worship for all pupils.

A SACRE must:

1. advise the LA on RE in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus and on matters related to its functions, whether in response to a referral from the LA or as it sees fit;
2. publish an annual report on its work and actions taken by SACRE, specifying any matters on which it has advised the LA, broadly describe the nature of that advice, and set out reasons for offering advice on matters not referred to it by the LA;
3. send a copy of the report to the Qualification and Curriculum, Development Authority (QCDA);
4. meet in public unless confidential information is to be disclosed (such meetings at least three in each academic year, one in each autumn, spring and summer terms);
5. make minutes of its meetings available for inspection at the LA's offices (so far as minutes relate to the parts of meetings that were open to the public), and comply with requirements for public access to agenda and

reports for meetings as provided for by Section 391(1)(a) of the Education Act 1996.

6. Upon receipt of an application by a community school determine whether the requirement for Christian collective worship should apply to that school or any classes or description of pupils at that school.

A SACRE should:

1. monitor the provision and quality of RE taught according to its Agreed Syllabus together with the overall effectiveness of the syllabus;
2. provide advice and support on the effective teaching of RE in accordance with the locally Agreed Syllabus; provide advice to the LA and its schools on methods of teaching, the choice of teaching material and the provision of teacher training;
3. offer advice to the LA, and through the LA to schools, concerning how an agreed syllabus can be interpreted so as to fit in with a broad, balanced and coherent curriculum.
4. in partnership with its LA, consider whether any changes need to be made in the Agreed Syllabus or in the support offered to schools in the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus, to improve the quality teaching and learning of RE.

A SACRE may:

1. require its LA to review the Agreed Syllabus and, if after discussion a vote is taken on this matter, the LA group on SACRE is not entitled to cast a vote. A majority decision by the three other committees is sufficient;
2. decide to advise the LA on matters related to its functions to the LA – equally, an LA may decide to refer matters to its SACRE;
3. co-opt members who are not members of the four groups – such co-opted members may provide educational expertise, young peoples' views or religious and non-religious views that reflect a diverse multi-cultural society;

#### **4. Membership**

Lincolnshire SACRE shall consist of representative members appointed by the LA and comprising four groups to represent respectively:

1. Committee 'A': such Christian and other religious denominations as will appropriately reflect the religious traditions in the LA;
2. Committee 'B': the Church of England;
3. Committee 'C': such associations representing teachers as, in the opinion of the LA, ought, having regard to the circumstances of the County Council, to be represented;
4. Committee 'D': the LA: to be politically balanced; the representatives to be appointed by LA.

The membership of the SACRE should be annually reviewed and all members of Lincolnshire SACRE should have an interest in education in general and religious education in particular and must either live, work, or worship in Lincolnshire.

## **5. Composition**

The composition of the groups of shall be as follows:-

Committee 'A' – Religions and religious denominations in the area (other than Church of England). – up to 10 members

Committee 'B' Church of England – up to four members

Committee 'C' Teachers representing unions in Lincolnshire – four teacher members, who may be head teachers or assistant teachers

Committee 'D' The LA – Four representatives of the Lincolnshire County Council, at least two of whom shall be elected members of Lincolnshire county Council

Representatives should be nominated in accordance with Principles of Representation on LA SACRE (see Appendix A). Each representative group within LA will be responsible for the method of electing their representatives and be responsible for whom they nominate to represent them on the SACRE.

## **6. Co-opted Members**

Other persons may be co-opted by the representative groups on the SACRE for such purposes and such length of time as representative groups on the SACRE shall decide. Co-opted members may resign at any time and may be removed by the representative groups at any time or the LA. Co-opted members shall have no voting rights.

## **7. Working Parties**

SACRE may appoint members to Working Parties which may include non-members with expertise to contribute. The terms of reference of a Working Party will involve exploratory work leading to recommendations rather than decision making. The composition of a Working Party will normally include members from all groups.

## **8. Chair and Vice Chair**

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the SACRE shall be elected annually by the representative members of the SACRE at the first meeting to be held after September each representative member having one vote (see Appendix B for election procedure).



The Chair and Vice-Chair of the SACRE shall be elected annually by the representative members of the SACRE at the first meeting to be held after September each representative member having one vote.

The Chair and Vice-Chair will be appointed from members of Committee A, B, C and D. If there is more than one candidate the candidate receiving the most votes shall be elected. The previous Chair shall, in the case of a tied vote, have a casting vote.

Persons continuing to be members of the SACRE are eligible for re-appointment to the position of Chair or Vice Chair.

In the absence of any nominations for the Chair, an executive group shall be elected to lead SACRE.

The prime duties of the Chair, supported by the Vice-Chair are:

- Management of SACRE meetings and finances.
- Representation of LA SACRE to other bodies (e.g. LA, NASACRE), and
- Any other matter agreed by SACRE.

## **9. Adviser**

The specific responsibilities of the Adviser to the SACRE are:

- provide advice to the SACRE and any sub committees on professional issues but are not members of the SACRE and cannot vote.
- advise and update SACRE members on any new government guidance or policy documents; and
- support the SACRE to carry out its role of monitoring and supporting schools with the delivery of RE and Collective Worship. This role to be reviewed annually.

## **10. Voting Procedures in SACRE**

On any issue to be decided by the SACRE, except as provided in Section 8 paragraph 2 only the four representative groups shall be entitled to a vote and each group shall have a single vote. Individual representative members cannot vote separately. Co-opted members are not entitled to vote.

Issues shall be decided by a simple majority vote. There shall not be a casting vote. If there is a tied vote no action shall be taken on the issue and the existing position shall continue.

## **11. Voting Procedures within Representative Groups**

Before any representative group casts its single vote on any issue to be decided by the SACRE it shall meet to discuss the issue. The decision of the

representative group shall be determined by a simple majority vote in which each member of the group has one vote.

Issues shall be decided by a simple majority vote. There shall not be a casting vote. If there is a tied vote the group shall abstain from voting on the issue in SACRE.

## **12. Quorum**

Meetings of the SACRE shall be quorate when at one (1) representative member from each of the four (4) representative groups is present. If the meeting is not quorate, the meeting could continue but decisions would have to be ratified at the next SACRE meeting. A Working Party meeting does not constitute a formal SACRE meeting.

## **13. Term of Office of Representative Members**

The representative members shall hold office until such members' terms of office (generally being four (4) years) come to an end or they resign or they become otherwise ineligible for membership. When a vacancy does arise the LA must attempt to appoint a replacement member to the SACRE to represent the same group as the retiring member.

Representative members may resign at any time.

Interests, whether personal or prejudicial, should be declared. If a member has a prejudicial interest they should declare that interest and withdraw from the meeting and taken no part in the decision.

Members or co-opted members who fail to attend three consecutive meetings without a satisfactory explanation will have their membership reviewed by the SACRE. The Local Authority may remove any representative or co-opted member that has failed to attend three consecutive meetings without valid reason.

## **14 Agenda**

Matters for the Agenda of any meeting shall be sent to the Clerk at least 21 days in advance of the meeting. The Agenda shall be distributed to reach members at least 7 working days in advance of the next listed meeting. Information should be sent at least electronically.

The agenda for SACRE meetings, with the exception of the first meeting of a newly constituted SACRE, will be determined by a working group comprising of Chair, Adviser and LA representative.

## **15. Minutes**

The draft minutes of meetings shall be circulated to Members as soon after the meeting as possible to ensure actions are taken. Minutes will also be re-sent no later than one week before the meeting takes place. Information should be sent at least electronically.

## **16. Meetings and Validity of Proceedings**

The validity of any proceedings of the SACRE or any of representative group within the SACRE shall not be affected by any vacancy amongst representative members.

The LA's Learning Director for Children and Young People's Service or anyone nominated by her/him shall be entitled to be present through the proceedings of the SACRE and shall be entitled to give advice as she/he thinks appropriate.

## **17. Administrative and Financial Arrangements**

The LA shall provide:

- 1) A person to act as Clerk to the SACRE, and
- 2) Accommodation for the meetings of the SACRE

SACRE must also:

Monitor the use of funds provided by the LA for its activities, and

Recommend how revenue, if any, generated by its activities should be managed and used.

## **18. Disputes and Complaints**

The SACRE is intended to be a collaborative, co-operative body and needs to ensure that no particular sector or member is unduly favoured. Problems and issues should normally be debated and resolved at the SACRE meetings. However, if parties feel that these have not been resolved, the following process should be followed and minutes taken:

- Stage 1: The parties who are in dispute meet with the Chair of the SACRE, LA Representative and the Adviser who will assist in finding or recommending a solution.
- Stage 2: A special meeting of the SACRE is convened, with papers prepared by the parties representing different views. The Chair, LA Representative and the Adviser also prepare a paper offering possible options for resolution. If the problem is not resolved, the dispute is referred to Stage 3.
- Stage 3: If the issue is not resolved then guidance or clarification will be sought from the relevant Government Department.

Complaints from members of the public will be handled by Lincolnshire County Council's Complaints Procedure.

## **19. Confidential Business**

Report authors are responsible for informing the Clerk, in advance, of the status of documentation and/or reports to be included on the Agenda and if they contain confidential or commercially sensitive information, and with such items of business, the principles of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 will apply. Reports that are to be treated as confidential should be marked accordingly and contain the appropriate confidentiality clause.

Where an item of business before Lincolnshire SACRE is marked as confidential, that item will be discussed in private. The Adviser to Lincolnshire SACRE may attend and speak at the SACRE meetings on consideration of all matters considered in private. Members of the public and observers (including other elected LA Members or officers of the LA) shall be excluded from the consideration of any confidential item.

## **20. Freedom of Information**

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be handled in accordance with the Council's published procedures for dealing with such requests.

Any member of the LA SACRE receiving a request under Freedom of Information Act will be required to pass that request to Democratic Services and marked for attention of the Clerk to SACRE within 24 hours of receipt of that request in order that the LA may deal with that request within the 20 working day time limit.

Where a request has been made for the disclosure of information covered by a qualified exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (or other relevant information), the Chair of the SACRE will be either be invited to attend a meeting or requested to provide written representations on behalf of SACRE as to the potential disclosure, but the decision as to disclosure rests with the LA. If the Chair is unable to attend the meeting or fails to make representations the request will be dealt with by the LA at their discretion. Where the LA decides that the balance of interest is in disclosure of the information requested the LA will arrange for disclosure. Where the LA decides that the balance is in favour of non-disclosure of the information requested, the information will be withheld and the LA will arrange for the reasons to be communicated in writing. Such decisions will be made after taking appropriate legal advice and in accordance with the LA's published policies and procedures.

## **21. Code of Practice**

Members of Lincolnshire SACRE will operate in accordance with the Local Code of Conduct for Members. SACRE members are therefore required to sign a declaration in respect of the Code of Conduct and also complete a Register of their Interests.

Interests, whether personal or prejudicial, should be declared. If a member has a prejudicial interest they should declare that interest and withdraw from the meeting and take no part in the decision.

## **22. Overview and Scrutiny**

The Lincolnshire SACRE and its members will co-operate with any reasonable request by the LA in respect of its overview and scrutiny functions under Section 21 Local Government Act 2000. Any requests for information or attendance of SACRE members at the relevant overview and scrutiny committee will be made as soon as possible and generally at least 7 days before the meeting

## **23. APPENDIX A**

The following principles of representation shall be applied to the following groups:

Christian denominations and other religions

- 1) This group should reflect the variety and numerical representation of different faith groups in the LA. Representatives should have the support of their faith community in Lincolnshire.
- 2) The representative should, as far as possible, be nominated by the appropriate local faith group. In circumstances where this is not possible, representatives should be nominated by the appropriate national organisations, district, town or city committees, or by a senior member of a local faith community.
  - In some circumstances it may be appropriate to consult with more than one committee in order to receive a nomination (eg where there are no countywide committees, but there is more than one local committee with only one SACRE member for that faith group).
- 3) In circumstances where faith groups have countywide education committees, they should be the nominating group for SACRE members.

Church of England

- 4) The Diocesan Boards of Education for Lincoln Diocese should nominate these representatives.

Teacher Representatives

The six teaching professional associations recognised by the LA should each nominate one representative.

The LA

The full membership of the County Council should nominate these representatives.

## **24. Appendix B**

Process for election of Chair and Vice Chair of SACRE

- Nominations to be in writing by the end of the summer term to the clerk to SACRE
- People can nominate or express interest themselves in the post from any committee
- Voting will take place at the first meeting of the autumn term, as soon after September as possible, provided there is a quorum
- Voting will be by secret ballot on paper and counted by the non voting members of SACRE ie the LA representative and Adviser
- In the event of a tie, re-voting will continue until one person receives a majority vote
- Outcomes of the vote will be announced at the meeting